



Iowa Department of Human Services

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INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 1330

DATE: December 10, 2013

TO: Iowa Medicaid Providers

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

SUBJECT: Referring or Prescribing Providers Must be Enrolled with Medicaid

EFFECTIVE: January 6, 2014

Regulations within the Affordable Care Act (ACA) intended to strengthen the integrity of states' Medicaid program require that providers who prescribe (order) or who are indicated as a referral on a Medicaid claim must be enrolled as participating providers in the program. No provider type or facility is exempt from this requirement. This requirement means that referring or prescribing providers will be subject to the same Medicaid screening and verification processes that help ensure the integrity of the payment, just like all other providers indicated on a claim.

Beginning January 6th, 2014, claims that are submitted to the IME with a referral or prescriber identifier will be denied if submitted with an NPI that is not enrolled and active with the Iowa Medicaid program.

- Iowa Medicaid requires referrals on claims for durable medical equipment, orthotics, prosthesis, and medical supplies. Please reference the updated claim form instructions for these requirements.
- For claims processed through the Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) system, the current claim completion requirements remain unchanged.
- At this time, prescription claims processed through the Point of Sale (POS) system will not be impacted.

This requirement will impact provider types who have not previously enrolled with Medicaid. Specifically, since April 1, 2013, the IME has been accepting applications for Physician Assistants (PAs) to enroll as ordering and referring providers in accordance with section 6401 of the ACA. Additionally, Iowa Administrative Code 441—77.49(249A) specifies that enrollment of a PA is for the purpose of providing professional services for Medicaid members, including ordering and referring, and is being instituted to assure appropriate screening and identification, as required under ACA section 6401. Enrollment does not affect a PA's ability to provide any of the professional services they are currently able to perform within their scope of practice under Iowa law, nor will enrollment make PAs eligible for the direct payment of Medicaid claims, as those will continue to be paid through the supervising physician or clinic.

In August, 2012, the IME began to send notices about this requirement to all unenrolled providers who either prescribe and/or refer Medicaid members. Those providers who are not currently enrolled may obtain a copy of the Ordering/Referring Provider Application (form-470-5111) at www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/ProviderEnrollment.html.

The IME appreciates your continued partnership as we work to implement ACA and improve program accountability. If you have any questions please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609, or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.